

by disposing of lands which may be permanently surplus to Defence requirements, on realisation of market value.

(d) As Defence lands are declared permanently surplus only after taking into account present and future requirements, such contingencies are not likely to arise.

Toll collections for Road Projects

3844. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether some States have proposed setting up of joint ventures with the help of the private sector to raise funds for financing road construction projects;

(b) if so whether they have also called for setting up a revolving fund for toll-based projects and redeploying to collections and other funds generated through advertisements and road-side amenities;

(c) the name of the States sponsoring the move for such ventures to finance road construction;

(d) whether the Government have issued any directions to the State Governments in the matter of toll collections; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) In so far as National Highways are concerned, no proposal has been received from any State to set up joint ventures for financing toll based projects.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

(d) and (e). In so far as State roads are concerned, the State Governments have

already been requested to explore the possibility of involving private sector in development and maintenance of State roads.

Foreign Direct Investment from Japan

3845. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether foreign direct investment (FDI) from Japan is declining;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken to step up India's exports to Japan and to identify the potential areas of growth and expansion of trade?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) No, Sir; rather the investment from Japan to India has been on the rise.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Besides recent policy liberalisations in trade, these include periodical review of bilateral trade, exchange of delegations, participation in international fairs, exhibitions at Japan, etc.

Software Exports to Europe

3846. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and the European Commission (EC) has proposed to set up jointly a centre in India to promote software exports to Europe; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE

MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b). India and the European Commission have, under a Memorandum of Technical Cooperation, signed in October, 1990 agreed to set up a software Engineering Centre in India with the objective of increasing software exports to Europe and to build capabilities in India in the field of software Engineering so as to improve the competitive edge of the Indian Software Industry. The National Centre for Software Technology has been identified as the implementing agency to set up this Centre.

Import of Silk Fabrics

3847. SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of policy for import of fabrics including Silk fabrics under Duty Exemption Entitlement Certificate (DEEC) duty free import licensing to ensure that the imported fabrics is actually used in the export of garments;

(b) whether the Government are aware that both in Calcutta and Delhi large scale imports of silk fabrics have been made and sold in domestic markets; and

(c) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Under Duty Exemption Scheme of the Import & Export Policy 1990-93 (Vol. I) the import of fabrics including silk fabrics is allowed only for manufacture and export of resultant products or for replenishment.

(b) and (c). The import under the above scheme is allowed with actual users condi-

tion. The Government is not aware of any misuse.

[*Translation*]

Complaints about Wasteful Expenditure In NTC

3849. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any complaints regarding the wasteful expenditure in National textile Corporation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken by the Government in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) and (b). Government receives from time to time general and specific complaints about wasteful expenditure in National textile Corporation.

(c) Wherever specific complaints of wasteful expenditure have been made, they have been looked into and appropriate action taken, wherever necessary.

[*English*]

Ordnance Factory, Saintala

3850. SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount sanctioned till date for the construction of ordnance factory at Saintala (Badamal) in Orissa;

(b) the total estimated cost of the said project; and